2008-03411/

The Corporation of The City of London
October 11, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor's Sustainable Energy Council Launches Action Plan

Emerging from the Mayor's June Round Table on Energy, the newly-formed Mayor's Sustainable Energy Council (MSEC) held its inaugural meeting today to finalize an action plan for the next six months.

The Council confirmed its new mandate to promote, encourage and support the development and implementation of practical research and initiatives, technologies and investment in the area of sustainable energy. These include energy conservation, efficiency and alternative energy for the sustainable economic and environmental benefit and use of London and surrounding area.

According to its new Terms of Reference, MSEC's goals are: a) To aggregate and disseminate information on energy, production, new technologies and usage with a focus on sustainable energy usage and activities; b) To be a leader in the development and promotion of practical projects in sustainable energy, conservation and efficiency; c) To support and champion industry initiatives currently under development in London and surrounding area; d) To actively encourage public and private investment in sustainable energy activities, in cooperation with existing agencies; e) To advance public discussion and promote public involvement in the generation of creative solutions in sustainable energy, conservation and efficiency; f) To promote, encourage and support research in sustainable energy; and g) To write an annual review of the accomplishments and objectives of the Council.

"We are pleased to announce a Business/Industry Consultation Session to be held in Council Chambers on November 26," says Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best. "Through this process and other citizen-focused opportunities for input, we will find new ways to develop and market sustainable energy solutions for the future."

"In anticipation of the Consultation Session, an energy audit will be completed to provide a starting point of London's current energy footprint," says Mohan Mathur, MSEC Chair and Professor Emeritus at Western. "This will help develop benchmarks for continuous improvement in energy efficiency, innovation and best practices."

The Mayor's Sustainable Energy Council consists of 18 industry leaders representing research, education, production and distribution of energy to consumers. The Council is supported through staff resources from the City of London, the University of Western Ontario, Fanshawe College, London Economic Development Corporation, London Hydro and Union Gas.

Announced in her 2007 State of the City Address, Mayor DeCicco-Best will complete a series of four community Round Tables addressing emerging sector topics by the end of November. In addition to energy, the Round Tables are focused on life sciences, advanced manufacturing and agrifood. You will find more information on the Mayor's Round Tables on ***www.london.ca***.